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Appl. No. 09/527,924  
Amdt. Dated August 22, 2003  
Reply to Office action of June 6, 2003

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/527,924  
Applicant : Nozomi Miura  
Filed : March 17, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 2685  
Examiner : Quochien B. Vuong

Docket No. : 32429  
Customer No. : 00116

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AUG 28 2003

Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT "A"**

Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated June 6, 2003 (Paper No. 7). The three month period for responding to the Office action expires on September 6, 2003. The \$168.00 additional independent claims in excess of three fee is enclosed herewith.

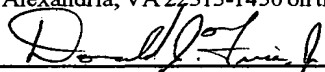
Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Donald J. Firca, Jr.  
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

 August 22, 2003  
Signature of Attorney / Date

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